## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

An ergonomic microscope comprises a stand which has a stand base that
defines an external contour; a microscope carrier that comprises a body and
a left and a right hand rest, wherein the left and the right hand rest are
attached to the body so as to pivot freely and independently of one another.

- 2. The ergonomic microscope as defined in Claim 1, wherein the body possesses an external contour that corresponds substantially to the external contour of the stand base of the microscope.
- 3. The ergonomic microscope as defined in Claim 1, wherein the body comprises a housing open toward the bottom.
- 4. The ergonomic microscope as defined in Claim 3, wherein the housing has a surface in which is embodied at least one depression that serves to receive at least one corresponding foot on the stand base of the microscope.
- The ergonomic microscope as defined in Claim 4, wherein the depressions
  are configured as cutouts or holes, and serve to orient the microscope on the
  microscope carrier.
- The ergonomic microscope as defined in Claim 1, wherein a cutout for ventilation or supply is provided on the body.
- The ergonomic microscope as defined in Claim 1, wherein at least one opening for attaching the microscope is provided in the body of the microscope carrier.
- 8. The ergonomic microscope as defined in Claim 1, wherein the microscope carrier is equipped with several pivotable supports that make available at least a three-point support of the microscope carrier on a bench surface.

 The ergonomic microscope as defined in Claim 8, wherein a first and a second pivotable support are actuable independently of a third pivotable support.

- 10. The ergonomic microscope as defined in Claim 8, wherein the supports are provided in the housing, open toward the bottom, of the body, and an operating knob and a lever are provided on the body, the first and the second support being pivotable by way of the operating knob, and the third support by way of the lever.
- 11. The ergonomic microscope as defined in Claim 10, wherein a shaft is connected to the operating knob; a bracket is provided on the shaft and in turn is connected to connecting bars, one associated with the first support and one with the second support; and the connecting points between the bracket and the first and second supports are each embodied as rotatable bearing pins.
- 12. An ergonomic microscope comprises: a microscope carrier and a stand positioned on said microscope carrier; a left and a right hand rest are pivotally mounted to the microscope carrier and the left and the right hand rest are pivot freely and independently of one another.
- 13. The ergonomic microscope as defined in Claim 12 wherein the stand defines a stand base that has an external contour, the microscope carrier has a body that possesses an external contour, and the external contour of the stand base corresponds substantially to the external contour of the body
- 14. The ergonomic microscope as defined in Claim 13, wherein the body comprises a housing open toward the bottom, and the housing defines a surface in which is embodied at least one depression that serves to receive at least one corresponding foot on the stand base of the microscope.

15. The ergonomic microscope as defined in Claim 14, wherein the depressions are configured as cutouts or holes, and serve to orient the microscope on the microscope carrier.

- 16. The ergonomic microscope as defined in Claim 12, wherein the microscope carrier is equipped with several pivotable supports that make available at least a three-point support of the microscope carrier on a bench surface.
- 17. A microscope carrier comprises a body, a left and a right hand rest attached to the body so as to pivot freely and independently of one another.
- 18. The microscope carrier as defined in Claim 17, wherein the left and the right hand rest are attached by means of a hinge system to a left and a right lateral cheekpiece of the body.
- The microscope carrier as defined in Claim 17, wherein the left and the right hand rest can be hooked onto a left and a right lateral cheekpiece of the body (4).
- 20. The microscope carrier as defined in Claim 17, wherein the hand rests each have a front edge; and the hand rests taper from a certain segment toward the front edge.
- 21. The microscope carrier as defined in Claim 17, wherein the microscope carrier is equipped with several pivotable supports that make available at least a three-point support of the microscope carrier on a bench surface.
- 22. The microscope carrier as defined in Claim 21, wherein a first and a second pivotable support are actuable independently of a third pivotable support.

23. The microscope carrier as defined in Claim 21, wherein the supports are provided in a housing, open toward the bottom, of the body; and an operating knob and a lever are provided on the body, the first and the second support being pivotable by way of the operating knob, and the third support by way of the lever.

- 24. The microscope carrier as defined in Claim 23, wherein a shaft is connected to the operating knob; a bracket is provided on the shaft and in turn is connected to connecting bars, one associated with the first support and one with the second support; and rotatable bearing pins connect the bracket and the first and second supports.
- 25. The microscope carrier as defined in Claim 24, wherein the body possesses a front side on which the operating knob is provided; and the operating knob possesses a detent lug which coacts with detent flutes on the front side of body in such a way that a discrete pivoting of the first and the second supports can be established.
- 26. The microscope carrier as defined in Claim 23, wherein the lever provided on the body has associated with it several detents with which at least one discrete pivoting of the third support can be established.
- 27. The microscope carrier as defined in Claim 17, wherein the body possesses an external contour that corresponds substantially to the external contour of a stand base of a microscope.
- 28. The microscope carrier as defined in Claim 27, wherein the body comprises a housing open at the bottom.
- 29. The microscope carrier as defined in Claim 27, wherein the housing has a surface in which is embodied at least one depression that serves to receive at least one corresponding foot on the stand base of the microscope.

30. The microscope carrier as defined in Claim 29, wherein the depressions are configured as cutouts or holes, and serve to orient the microscope on the microscope carrier.

31. The microscope carrier as defined in Claim 17, wherein at least one opening for attaching the microscope is provided in the body of the microscope carrier.